

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1 (Currently Amended) A method for enabling an electronic information  
5 marketplace, the method comprising the steps of:

collecting a request from a buyer for a requested information good,  
wherein said request comprises non-textual information;

analyzing the request to create additional information from the request;  
collecting one or more offered information goods from one or more  
10 sellers;

analyzing each of the offered information goods to create additional  
information from the information good; and

matching the request with at least one of the offered information goods by  
matching the additional information from the request with the additional information  
15 from the at least one information good.

2 (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of matching further  
comprises the step of selecting the at least one offered information goods as a best  
match

20

3 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of  
matching further comprises the step of matching the request with at least one of the  
offered information goods by comparing the additional information from the request and  
~~the request with~~ the additional information from the at least one information good and the  
25 at least one offered information good.

4 (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of analyzing the  
request further comprises the step of analyzing the request to create annotations, and  
wherein the step of analyzing each of the one or more offered information goods further  
30 comprises the step of analyzing each of the one or more offered information goods to  
create annotations.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein each of the annotations comprises one or more of metadata, semantics, syntactic information, summary information, and model information.

5 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of analyzing the request further comprises the step of creating at least one inference from the request, and wherein the step of analyzing each of the one or more offered information goods further comprises the step of creating at least one inference from each the offered information goods

10

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein each inference is created through deduction, induction, or abduction

8 (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the step of analyzing the  
15 request further comprises the step of accessing at least one request knowledge model, and wherein the step of analyzing each of the offered information goods further comprises the step of accessing at least one offered knowledge model.

9 (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of analyzing the  
20 request further comprises the step of accessing at least one request knowledge model, and wherein the step of analyzing each of the offered information goods further comprises the step of accessing at least one offered knowledge model.

10 (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each of the offered information  
25 goods has a price associated with the information good and wherein the step of matching further comprises dynamically determining prices of the offered information goods.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the step of dynamically  
determining prices further comprises the step of creating an influence diagram  
30 comprising nodes and arcs, each arc connecting one node with another node

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the step of dynamically determining prices further comprises the step of updating expectations and probabilities, defined by the influence diagram, through Bayesian updating or a Bayes linear method selected from a group consisting of linear Bayes updating and updating with decisions.

5

13 (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the step of dynamically determining prices further comprises the step of maximizing utility.

14 (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each information good  
10 comprises a good that can be distributed in digital form.

15 (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of exchanging the at least one offered information good and the requested information good, whereby the buyer has the at least one offered information good and one of the sellers has the requested information good after the exchange.

16 (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein:  
the step of analyzing the request further comprises the step of annotating the request with annotations comprising one or more of metadata, semantics, syntactic  
20 information, summary information, and model information;

the step of analyzing each of the offered information goods further comprises the step of annotating each of the information goods with annotations comprising one or more of metadata, semantics, syntactic information, summary information, and model information;

25 the method further comprises the steps of:  
determining at least one offer inference from the one or more offered information goods; and

determining at least one request inference from the request; and  
the step of matching further comprises the step of matching the request  
30 with at least one of the offered information goods by comparing the request, and

annotations and request inferences of the request, with the offered information goods, and annotations and offer inferences of the offered information goods

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of determining at  
5 least one offer inference further comprises the step of determining the at least one offer inference by using one or more of an inductive method, a deductive method, and an abductive method.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of selecting  
10 a trading mechanism from a group consisting of fixed-price, price discrimination, auction, and subscription

19 (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of  
decomposing an offering of one of the offered information goods, and wherein the step of  
15 matching further comprises the step of comparing decompositions of the one offered information good with the request and the additional information from the request.

20 (Currently Amended) A system for enabling an electronic information marketplace, the system comprising:

20 a memory that stores computer-readable code; and  
a processor operatively coupled to the memory, the processor configured to implement the computer-readable code, the computer-readable code configured to:  
collect a request from a buyer for a requested information good, wherein said request comprises non-textual information;  
25 analyze the request to create additional information from the request;  
collect one or more offered information goods from one or more sellers;  
analyze each of the offered information goods to create additional information from the information good; and  
match the request with at least one of the offered information goods by  
30 matching the additional information from the request with the additional information from the at least one information good.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when analyzing the request, to analyze the request to create annotations, and wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when analyzing each of the one or more offered information goods, to analyze each of the one or more offered information goods to create annotations.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein each of the annotations comprises one or more of metadata, semantics, syntactic information, summary information, and model information

23 (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when analyzing the request, to create at least one inference from the request, and wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when analyzing each of the one or more offered information goods, to create at least one inference from each the offered information goods.

24 (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein each inference is created through deduction, induction, or abduction

25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when analyzing the request, to ~~of~~access at least one request knowledge model, and wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when analyzing each of the offered information goods, to access at least one offered knowledge model

26. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein each of the offered information goods has a price associated with the information good and wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when matching, to dynamically determine prices of the offered information goods

27. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when dynamically determining prices, to create an influence diagram comprising nodes and arcs, each arc connecting one node with another node

5 28. (Original) The system of claim 27, wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when dynamically determining prices, to update expectations and probabilities, defined by the influence diagram, through Bayesian updating or a Bayes linear method selected from a group consisting of linear Bayes updating and updating with decisions.

10

29. (Original) The system of claim 27, wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when dynamically determining prices, to maximize utility

15 30. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein each information good comprises a good that can be distributed in digital form.

31. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured to exchange the at least one offered information good and the requested information good, whereby the buyer has the at least one offered information  
20 good and one of the sellers has the requested information good after the exchange

32. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured to decompose an offering of one of the offered information goods, and wherein the computer-readable code is configured, when matching, to compare  
25 decompositions of the one offered information good with the request and the additional information from the request.

33 (Currently Amended) ~~An article of manufacture comprising:  
a computer-readable medium having computer-readable code means  
30 embodied thereon, the computer-readable code means comprising:~~

An article of manufacture for enabling an electronic information marketplace, comprising a machine readable medium containing one or more programs which when executed implement the steps of:

5       ~~a step to collecting~~ a request from a buyer for a requested information good, wherein said request comprises non-textual information;

~~a step to analyze~~ analyzing the request to create additional information from the request;

~~a step to collecting~~ one or more offered information goods from one or more sellers;

10       ~~a step to analyze~~ analyzing each of the offered information goods to create additional information from the information good; and

~~a step to matching~~ the request with at least one of the offered information goods by matching the additional information from the request with the additional information from the at least one information good

15

34       (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein the one or more programs which when executed further implement computer-readable code means further comprises, when analyzing the request, a step to analyze the request to create annotations, and wherein the computer-readable code means further comprises,  
20       when analyzing each of the one or more offered information goods, a step to analyze each of the one or more offered information goods to create annotations

35       (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 34, wherein each of the annotations comprises one or more of metadata, semantics, syntactic information,  
25       summary information, and model information

36       (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein the one or more programs which when executed further implement computer-readable code means further comprises, when analyzing the request, a step to create at least one  
30       inference from the request, and wherein the one or more programs which when executed further implement computer-readable code means further comprises, when analyzing

each of the one or more offered information goods, a step to create at least one inference from each the offered information goods.

37           (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein each inference  
5 is created through deduction, induction, or abduction.

38           (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein the  
one or more programs which when executed further implement computer-readable code  
~~means further comprises~~, when analyzing the request, a step to of access at least one  
10 request knowledge model, and wherein the one or more programs which when executed  
further implement computer-readable code ~~means further comprises~~, when analyzing  
each of the offered information goods, a step to access at least one offered knowledge  
model

15 39.           (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein  
each of the offered information goods has a price associated with the information good  
and wherein the one or more programs which when executed further implement  
~~computer-readable code means further comprises~~, when matching, a step to dynamically  
determine prices of the offered information goods.

20 40           (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 39, wherein the  
one or more programs which when executed further implement computer-readable code  
~~means further comprises~~, when dynamically determining prices, a step to create an  
influence diagram comprising nodes and arcs, each arc connecting one node with another  
25 node

41.           (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 40, wherein the  
one or more programs which when executed further implement computer-readable code  
~~means further comprises~~, when dynamically determining prices, a step to update  
30 expectations and probabilities, defined by the influence diagram, through Bayesian



updating or a Bayes linear method selected from a group consisting of linear Bayes updating and updating with decisions.

42 (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 40, wherein the  
5 one or more programs which when executed further implement computer-readable code  
~~means further comprises~~, when dynamically determining prices, a step to maximize  
utility.

43 (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein each  
10 information good comprises a good that can be distributed in digital form.

44 (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein the  
one or more programs which when executed further implement computer-readable code  
~~means further comprises~~ a step to exchange the at least one offered information good and  
15 the requested information good, whereby the buyer has the at least one offered  
information good and one of the sellers has the requested information good after the  
exchange.

45 (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein the  
20 one or more programs which when executed further implement computer-readable code  
~~means further comprises~~ a step to decompose an offering of one of the offered  
information goods, and wherein the one or more programs which when executed further  
implement computer-readable code ~~means further comprises~~, when matching, a step to  
compare decompositions of the one offered information good with the request and the  
25 additional information from the request.